## Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

## **Listing of Claims**:

1-6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently amended) Device according to Claim 3 Trailer towing device for a motor vehicle, comprising a coupling neck configured to be adjustable on a vehicle body between an inoperative position and an operative position and having a coupling ball at an end side thereof and, at the vehicle body or a

member, an adjustably held socket for an electric plug connection of a trailer,

wherein the socket is arranged on the vehicle body in a resiliently prestressed manner such that the adjustable movement of the coupling neck adjusts the socket and takes the socket along to and from a moved-out operative position and a moved-in inoperative position.

wherein a pivot pin on a side of the vehicle body or member is provided to swivel the socket about a horizontal axis in a vertical direction.

a spring element arranged on the pivot pin holds the socket, in the operative position, in an end position and the spring element is supported at one end thereof on a side of the member and at another end thereof, which faces

Serial No. 10/617,359

Reply Dated: May 17, 2005

Reply to Office Action

away on a finger-shaped stop part of a bearing plate of the socket, wherein and

the coupling neck in the member is swivellable swivelable about a vertical axis

from the operative position into an intermediate position below the socket

situated in the end position, and, for taking up the inoperative position, the

coupling neck is configured to be swivellable swivelable about a horizontal axis

in the member, and wherein an interior surface of the coupling neck is situated

opposite the socket which, during a further swivelling swiveling movement,

extends under the coupling neck while resting thereagainst and takes the socket

along into the inoperative position against tension of the spring element.

8. (Currently amended) Device according to Claim 7, wherein, in the

end position, the socket is arranged below the member having two spaced legs

and, in the inoperative position, is swivellable swivelable between the legs into a

clearance.

9. (Currently amended) Device according to Claim 8, wherein, in its

an inoperative position of the socket, the socket, while being tensioned by the

spring element, is arranged on the coupling neck between the legs in the

clearance.

10. (Cancelled)

Page 4 of 5